Monitoring and Evaluation of Gender Mainstreaming in Humanitarian Action

By

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By the end of this session, we should all:

- Add something into our understanding and appreciation of the Nature of Humanitarian Emergencies;
- Be able to define Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E), Gender-sensitive Indicators in the context of Gender Mainstreaming in Humanitarian Action;
- Have gained an understanding about the role of Gender-Sensitive Indicators in Monitoring and Evaluation of Gender Mainstreaming;
- Be able to give examples of and/or construct Gender-sensitive Indicators by Sector;
- Be able to picture how your Office, Organization or Agency can facilitate the growth and proper functioning of the Darfur Gender Network (DGN).
Humanitarian Emergencies include: **Natural Disasters; Civil and Political Conflicts, etc.** Disasters and conflicts usually erupt bringing about a **Crisis**!

The **Crisis** nature of humanitarian emergencies means:

- Humanitarian actors should move quickly to save lives, meet basic needs and protect survivors.
- Humanitarian actors tend to deliver life saving services and products by emphasizing **Speed** in Project Preparation, sometimes **Compressing** the Design and Identification stages of the Project Cycle, and focusing instead on **Capacity building** and **Learning by doing**.

This approach relies on immediate **Monitoring** and **Evaluation** of programmes to determine which **Activities** are **Efficient** and **Effective** for **Expansion**, and which are not and should be **Stopped** or would benefit from **Capacity Building**.

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The Nature of Humanitarian Emergencies
Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)

- **Monitoring** – The assessment of ongoing humanitarian activities, centering mostly on the *inputs*, *outputs*, and *processes* related to those activities.
  - The concentration of monitoring is in keeping track of programme performance to ensure it is on time, on budget and on target.

- **Evaluation** – The episodic/periodic/intervallic assessment of overall achievements and results of humanitarian activities, centering mostly on *outcomes* and *impacts*.
  - The concentration of evaluation is to establish a link (or lack of a link) between programmatic resource (finance, equipment, personnel, etc) investment into a given humanitarian intervention with the results thereof.
Engendering the Monitoring Process

- **Monitoring** – keeping a gender-sensitive eye on programme activities by:
  - Monitoring progress towards fulfilling concrete gender mainstreaming goals and objectives.
  - Monitoring the implementation process.
  - Considering specific questions in the monitoring process
    - E.g. Are project implementers continually motivated to maintain a gender perspective in their work?

- **Gender-Sensitive Monitoring Plans** specify:
  - Who is responsible for specific monitoring tasks.
  - When monitoring will take place.
  - What tools will be used to record observations and what mechanisms will be used for reviewing progress.
Gender-sensitive Indicators

- An **Indicator** is a pointer – a number, a fact or a perception that measures (over time) changes in a specific condition or situation being addressed by an intervention.
  - **Indicators** provide a close look at the results of interventions.
  - **Indicators** are front-line instruments for M&E.
- **Gender-Sensitive Indicators** – measure gender-related changes in Society/Community/Darfur over time.
  - Point out how far and in what ways interventions have met their gender objectives and achieved results related to gender equity.
Allow the measurement of benefit to women and men of programme interventions, E.g.:

- Impact/effectiveness of activities targeted to promote gender equality within staffing and organizational culture of humanitarian organizations or government departments.
- Impact/effectiveness of activities targeted to address women’s and men’s practical gender needs i.e. resources, opportunities or services in the context of existing emergency and gender roles.
- Impact/effectiveness of activities designed to increase women’s role in decision-making, e.g., in the camps.
Measurement of Benefit to Women and Men

- **Gender-sensitive Indicators** should capture quantitative and qualitative aspects of change (+ve or –ve) brought about by interventions.

- **Quantitative Indicators** record numbers and percentages of women and men who benefit or do not benefit from interventions. E.g. Women form at least 33% of water committee members by the end of Year.
  - Quantitative Indicators draw on sex-disaggregated data systems and records put in place during policy and planning processes.

- **Qualitative Indicators** record perceptions and experiences. It is not enough to know women form 33% of water committee members – the quality of their participation and experience in committee meetings is all-important.
How to Develop Gender-sensitive Indicators

- Indicators chosen should provide answers to questions about concrete progress and implementation process.

- Developing appropriate indicators means:
  - Asking the right question about what the indicator should tell you. E.g. Are both girls and boys in the programme area equally able to access education?
  - Deciding what type of information is needed to answer question. E.g. Extent to which girls' needs for existing education services are met as compared to extent to which boys’ needs are met.
  - Identifying the source of such information. E.g. Population based survey on use of education services, which disaggregates and compares responses of girls and boys (men and women).
Evaluation

- The Monitoring Process concludes with evaluation.
- Evaluation establishes good practices and lessons learned from an initiative, for the ultimate purpose of improving such initiative.
- Also, evaluation provides accountability for resources used.
- Three levels of evaluation include:
  - Evaluation of the process – how were outputs and outcomes delivered?
  - Evaluation of outputs – have objectives been met?
  - Evaluation of outcomes – to what extent has the humanitarian goal been achieved?
Engendering the Evaluation Process

- **Evaluation Criteria**
  - Who determines the evaluation criteria?
  - What level of importance is given to gender equality considerations?

- **Evaluation Actors**
  - Do evaluators’ TOR specify the need for gender expertise?
  - Will the opinions of both men and women be considered?
  - Who will provide inputs for evaluation data?
  - Who will be responsible for combining inputs and deciding the validity and priority of differing opinions and observations?

- **Evaluation Process**
  - Will participatory methods be used?
  - How and to whom will the results of the evaluation be disseminated?
  - Will both men and women stakeholders be given the opportunity to formally comment on evaluation results?
The Darfur Gender Network (DGN)

- A Community of Practice which is self-organizing, knowledge-sharing and peer-supporting.


- Electronic Network – Gender Mail List for sharing information, ideas and experiences.

- Monitoring and Evaluation of Gender Mainstreaming in Darfur Humanitarian Action.
End

Thank You!